

provided to State Government of Rajasthan under different schemes in the education sector by Ministry of Human Resource Development are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) The State Government has furnished the accounts of the expenditure incurred out of the grants released during 1999-2000 under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard, Non-formal Education, Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education and Integrated Education for Disabled Children.

#### Statement

*Grants provided to Rajasthan under different Educational Schemes  
(Rs. in lakhs)*

S.No.	Scheme/Programme	1999-2000	2000-2001
(1)	Operation Blackboard	1612.75	1584.80
(2)	Non-Formal Education	1219.51	1630.83
(3)	Special Project for Eradication of Illiteracy	244.00	—
(4)	Continuing Education	782.40	12.50
(5)	Celebration of Sanskrit Year	5.90	—
(6)	District Primary Education Programme	3050.00	—
(7)	Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education	2204.92	1401.43
(8)	Integrated Education for Disabled Children	79.96	74.48

#### National Mission for Technology Education

†3896. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the young students are getting disillusioned from science education and scientific research which

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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signals shortage of experienced teachers and research scientists in future;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have decided to form a National Mission for Technology Education, in order to fill the gap between demand and supply of technology specialists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the above mission is likely to be constituted?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI):** (a) to (d) Due to rapid expansion of Technical Education Sector and availability of other attractive alternatives, it has been generally noticed that young bright students are showing lesser interest in science education globally. Efforts are being made to ensure that the students continue to get attracted to science education and scientific research so that there is no shortage of experienced science teachers and research scientists in future.

Prime Minister of India in his speech on 19th January, 2001 announced that the Government of India would soon set up a National Mission for Technology Education to increase the number of highly trained professionals in Information Technology and other areas of Engineering and Management.

#### **Department of Vedic Astrology in Universities**

**3897. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission has decided to start Departments of Vedic Astrology in universities offering certificate, diploma, degree and doctoral courses in Jyoti Vigyan, from next academic year, and has issued a circular inviting universities to submit proposals for starting such departments and course;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal and circular have invoked strong